

The Magazine

# Crossroads

Fall 2005

## Campus in Remembrance

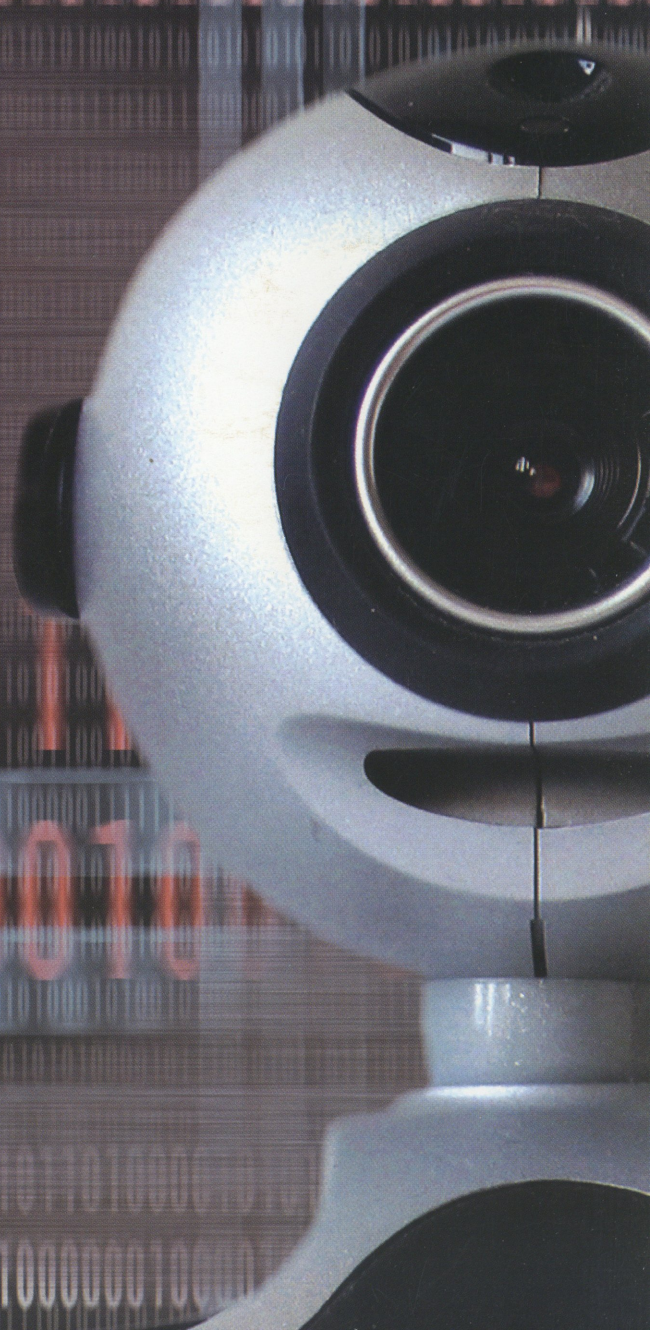
*Coach Ware and Dr. Kushner honored, remembered*

## Cyber Communication

*Blogging, vlogging create a new generation  
of cyber communication*

## Camp Barnabas

*"Extreme Makeover" changes the face,  
touches the heart of Camp Barnabas*





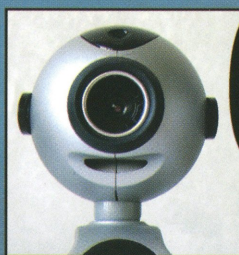
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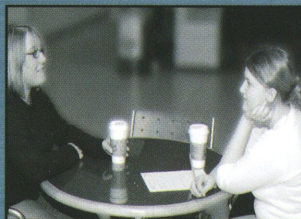
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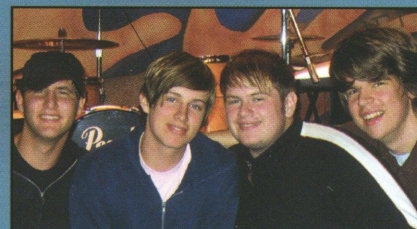
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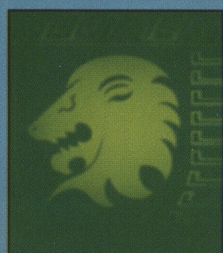
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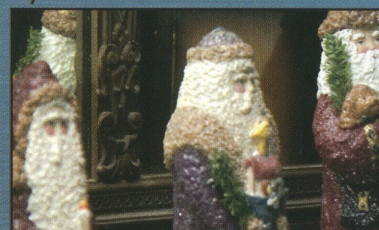
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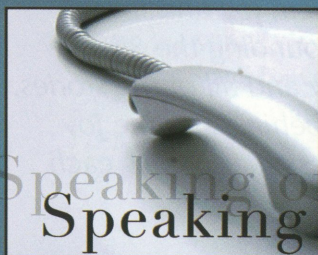
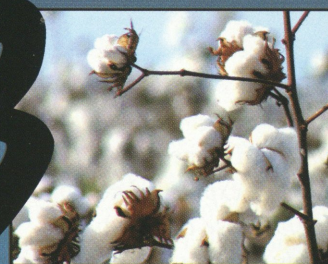
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## Editor's Letter:

*As seen in this past semester, life is short. As Psalm 103:15 states so eloquently: "As for man, his days are like grass – he blooms like a flower on the field." With the deaths of three beloved faculty, we all have seen this truth revealed in a painful way. But the impact they had still lives on and it is in memory of them that we have dedicated a story, so their lives might be remembered.*

*However, in life there is also happiness and laughter. And it is in this that we can find a sense of purpose, whether temporary or perhaps longer lasting. Some find happiness in providing assistance in this walk of life. Such is the case in the story which shares the experience of mentoring.*

*Others find happiness in creating something new like Linda Baldwin, creator of Belsnickles. Others find pleasure and a purpose in exercising their freedom of speech, uniquely portrayed in the story based on the new Internet craze of blogging.*

*However, much deeper than happiness, is joy. A story of joy can be seen in the lives of children at Camp Barnabas. Four men find joy in expressing their love for the Savior through the use of their band, "Sounding the Silence."*

*It is this joy that I hope for you, the reader. With our lives being temporary and happiness changing with our circumstances, every person seeks the one thing that can bring them joy and for me that has been my relationship with whom Sounding the Silence sings about, Jesus Christ. So as you read any and all of the stories, keep in mind the legacy you want to leave behind and the joy you want in your life, as well as the happiness that comes each day. Thank you for reading.*

Noelle L. Ott





Story and Photos by Noelle Ott

# CAMP BARNABAS



# CAMP BARNABAS

## "Extreme Makeover" changes the face, touches the heart of Camp Barnabas

Nestled somewhere in the middle of the woods lies a quiet, serene place where one can gather their thoughts and enjoy some peace and quiet. Somewhere, but not here.

With kids going everywhere and doing everything, there isn't much quiet at Camp Barnabas in Purdy, MO. But there is peace.

### Before the Beginning

Camp Barnabas, a camp for children with disabilities of every kind, is a unique camp which was started by Paul and Cyndy Teas. No matter what the disability is, Camp Barnabas offers the children a chance to go to camp, have fun and not be told they can't do something.

It all began as an idea when Paul and Cyndy were counselors at Kanakuk Kamp and they met a young girl named Lauren Hauschild.

At the age of twelve, she kept mentioning a pain that she felt in her leg. After Cyndy asked Hauschild's mother that a doctor be consulted, they discovered that Hauschild had bone cancer.

A few months later, Hauschild's leg was amputated. However, she only had one worry.

She was afraid she wouldn't be allowed to go back to camp.

Hauschild did go back to camp,

but due to chemotherapy and surgery, she was a much different-looking child than before. Bald, bloated and missing a leg, Hauschild told Cyndy that she wished she could "just be a normal kid." And so, the idea for what would become Camp Barnabas began to form.

What Hauschild said tore at Cyndy's heart and both Cyndy and Hauschild began to dream up a camp, like Kanakuk Kamp, but it would be a place where children with cancer could be normal. After talking the idea over with her husband, they decided to pitch the idea to Joe White, the owner of Kanakuk Kamp.

"Darned if he didn't say yes," Paul said, "He gave us the whole camp at the end of the summer."

By this time it was 1994, and Camp Barnabas had begun.

### A Place for the Kids

The name for Camp Barnabas comes from the later apostle of Jesus Christ. His actual name was Joseph, but his nickname was Barnabas, which meant "Son of Encouragement." And that was what the Teas hoped to do, encourage some kids who had good reasons to be down.

After the Teas were given the go-ahead, they started to recruit staff and kids. They had twenty-five kids for the first camp.

"They were phenomenal," Paul said.

The first camp was only for kids with cancer. However, they would later open up the camp for children with all disabilities. As time progressed, so did the camp, and in 1996, a donor stepped forward and put forth the down payment so Camp Barnabas could have their own land.

"Each year's a milestone. Every few years we get blessed to improve the property that makes it more worthy to help the kids here," Paul said.

Now, approximately 1,000 campers are

The new room for Paul and Cyndy Teas was completed by the Extreme Makeover crew in a week's time.





able to attend and 1,400 volunteers come to help out. Camp Barnabas hosts nine different terms, each for the varying types of disabilities.

For example, the first week is devoted to "adult friends," people who are developmentally disabled and are in the age range of 18 and up. The second term is called "challenge week," and is for children who are physically disabled.

No matter what the disability is Paul said that at the core of things, they are really the same.

"They are all facing the same issues," Paul said, "For once, they are the kids that set the standard."

With everything focused on the campers, Camp Barnabas is a unique place built just for them.

It's located on 123 acres of country and wooded areas. Inside the camp, one can find horseback riding, field games, archery, the rifle range, tennis, arts and crafts, drama and Camp Barnabas's own water park.

The architect, who designed White Water in Branson, MO, built the water park for the camp. And it was even built with a wheelchair beach entry. For children who normally are told "no," this is one time where they are enthusiastically told "yes!"

"[One time] a little girl was just watching and I walked up to her and asked her if she liked it [the water park]," Paul said, "and she said, thoughtfully, 'I think you should keep it,' and then just went off to play."

He described it as a humbling experience.

Although there is a lot of work, frustrations and head aches each year, Paul said that it all paid off at the end.

During one of their early summers, Camp Barnabas was hosting autistic children. On the last night, they hold a ceremony called Cross Carry, which is an event where the camp cross, which has the names of all the children who have passed away inscribed on plaques on it, is carried from cabin to cabin. Walking down the road, Paul and Cyndy were holding hands when an autistic

girl came between them and grabbed their hands.

"To let us into her world was huge, just huge," Paul said. "It's really neat because she's so excited to see us. If you can get that emotional response from an autistic child, that's so cool."

There is story after story the Teas family and the workers can give. One is of a little boy named Cameron who has ten percent vision out of one eye and no vision out of the other. Though some might see it as an extreme limitation, this boy is now a teen skateboarder. Not only that, he got to skate with the host of Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, Ty Pendleton.

#### **A Makeover of the Heart**

As most people know, Extreme Makeover recently visited Camp Barnabas.

On August 17, 2005, the Teas family got a unique alarm clock, about one hundred campers and Pendleton shouting "Good morning Teas family!"

Quickly the family came out the door with stunned looks on their faces. After Pendleton explained what was happening, the Teas were whisked away to Hilton Head Island.

"It was fantastic," Paul said, "The folks out there were so gracious, and [they] completely spoiled us rotten. It was hard to leave because we go to know the hotel staff so well."

While the family was away, the Extreme Makeover crew quickly got down to business. With a timeline of a week, about 3,000 volunteers started to help Camp Barnabas.

"The guys were here 24/7," Rosa Jones, secretary for Richland Mechanical Contractors in Joplin and Springfield, said, "They didn't leave."

Many volunteers did stay all seven days,



These paintings were done by the campers during the time Extreme Makeover was here. Every paintbrush was held in the camper's mouth.



# CAMP BARNABAS

"FOR ONCE, THEY  
ARE THE KIDS  
THAT SET THE  
STANDARD."

~ PAUL TEAS

working on various projects like a new house for the family, "The Barnabunk", which is a cabin for volunteers and, of course, "Ty's Secret Project".

## **Burn Down the Old, Rebuild the New**

The new house was a surprise to the Teas family. Their old house was literally falling down around them. Duct tape held up the showers, mold was on the house and the foundation was slowly proceeding down the hill that it was built on.

Not only that, but none of the family truly had a room to call their own. The family had always allowed the volunteers to take as much space as they needed, which at times meant even Paul and Cyndy's room, as well as the kids' rooms.

So when Pendleton asked Cyndy what they should do with the house, Cyndy replied, "Burn it down!" and so they did.

"They burned down the old house one evening and by the next morning the walls were up," Paul said. "It was so organized and so well timed. They had the house sheet-rocked in four hours."

While the house was burning, the campers had a treat of Trisha Yearwood singing live "Standing Out in the Crowd." Inside the house, built just for the family, the Extreme Makeover crew had built it according to what they knew about them. The crew knew one thing about the Teas' son, Trace— that his dream was to be on Missouri University's football team.

So part of the group went to MU and gathered footballs, a jersey with "Teas" on the back and ideas. Once back in his future room, they got to work and decorated the walls with the skins from the footballs, framed the shirt and even made the bed

stand to look like part of MU.

Another part of the crew took over Kayman's, their daughter's, future room and decorated it to look like a beach scene; complete with a hammock and palm tree. Paul and Cyndy's room took on a look of its own. It had a king size bed, pictures of the family and a more classic, yet comfortable, look to it.

Not only did Extreme Makeover add a personal touch to the rooms, but they also made bathrooms for the family, invented a family room and recreated the kitchen. However, one extremely personal touch for the family was the black and white photographs (Extreme Makeover had brought in a photographer to take pictures of the campers that they framed for the family) and the "The Big Tree of Life." This was a metal and wooden tree that had the campers' hand, feet or elbow-prints cut out for the leaves.

## **A Volunteer's Place**

The Barnabunk was created as a house for volunteers. It houses about forty people comfortably. The crew knew that the Teas had allowed the volunteers to sleep in their house so they wanted to create a place where the volunteers could sleep without using the Teas' house as sleeping quarters. The Barnabunk has a living room area with paintings on the wall that was painted by the campers, two bathrooms with showers, and about twenty bunks.

## **Ty's Secret Project**

On every episode, Pendleton has a secret project and this time was no different. When the family was beginning their vacation, he called to ask what they did on rainy days. Paul's answer was that they usually played games indoors, colored and did various things to keep the campers involved. So Pendleton started to work.

He went up to New York City and approached *TV Guide* about donating thousands of old magazines so they could make a media play room. *TV Guide* agreed and also said they would donate 10% of the next



Trace, a fan of MU, had his room recreated when the crew relined his wall with actual MU football skins.





issues profits if he would pose for the front cover. Pendleton readily agreed.

After he got back, part of the crew started to work on the room, later dubbed The Silver Lining. They used the *TV Guides* to make tables, chairs and *TV Guide* wallpaper. Extreme Makeover also donated a plasma TV and DVD's so the kids could have a variety of options to choose from for those rainy days.

#### **Other Projects**

Extreme Makeover also paved the roads, gave them two 2006 Ford Explorers and built an obstacle course any child can play on. They brought in Lance Bass from N\*Sync who gave \$50,000 to Camp Butterfly, a camp in Russia inspired by Camp Barnabas and built by a woman named Ayana.

#### **The Reaction**

As the Teas came back from vacation, the crew blindfolded them as they traveled down the newly paved road.

"We didn't know where we were," Paul said.

Once they saw the new house and all the campers, they were shocked.

"The number one question is 'Were we surprised?'" Cyndy said. "We were."

"The two things [going through my mind] were 'It's so big and it's so close,'" Paul said. "It's overwhelming."

However, the family loved it, but the house has been an adjustment because everything is new, including the food in the refrigerator and the decorations on the wall.

"It's a peculiar sensation," Paul said.

"We still wake up and say 'Is this reality?'" Cyndy said.

However, the Teas family was more than pleased at the results of everything.

"Everybody involved was so incredibly nice, genuinely so," Paul said, "They [the Extreme Makeover crew] really are a nice group of people."

But as much as the Teas family was changed by the experience, so was the Extreme Makeover crew.

"Everyone was really moved by the campers," Paul said. "They got their hearts made over."

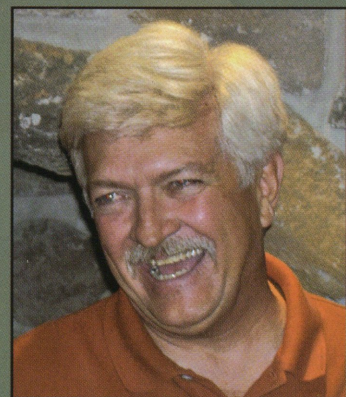
#### **Camp Barnabas: The Future**

In the future, Camp Barnabas has plans to build newer cabins for the campers and make it as special as they possibly for them. However, volunteers are always in demand each year.

"Come get involved," said Paul, "A lot of people wonder 'What can I do?' We need people."

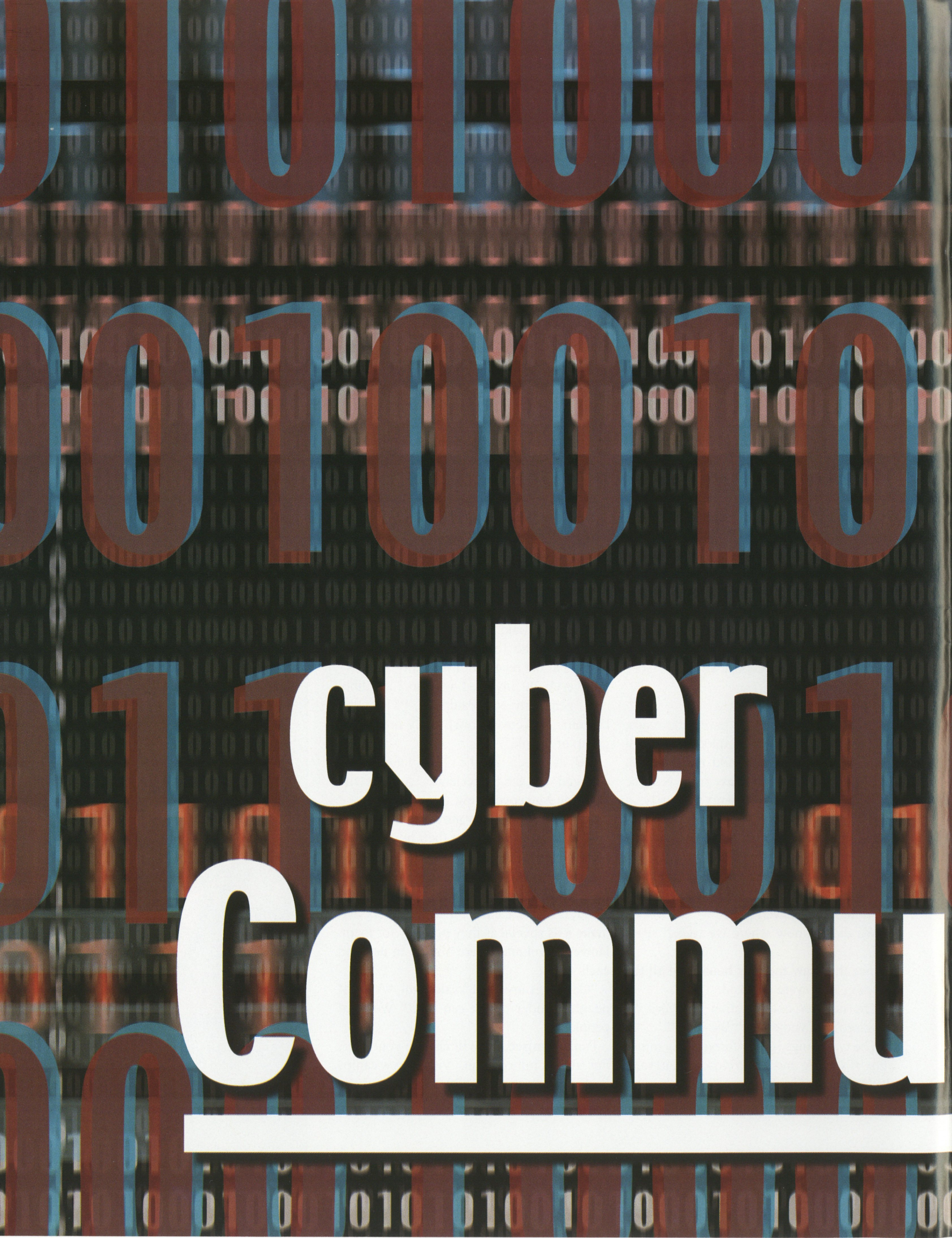
Paul promised, "it will change your life." For more information, visit [www.camp-barnabas.org](http://www.camp-barnabas.org) or call 1-800-217-1750.

Inspirational Point overlooks a valley below. The cross, which is used in a ritual called "Cross Carry", has plaques of the names of campers who have passed away.



Paul, along with his wife Cyndy, started the camp in 1994 after a child they knew wished for a camp just for kids with cancer.





# cyber Comm

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# communication

By Amie Mearnes



# Blogging, vlogging create a new generation of cyber communication

**S**ay it to some people and they think it's gibberish. Say it to others and an addiction is being fed. No matter what, when the word "blog" is mentioned, it is sure to cause a reaction.

But, what exactly are blogs? Blogs, which is a shortened way of saying Web-Blog, are personal web sites that are text based. Along with text, users will usually see a variety of images, photographs and graphics as well.

Blogs are dated entries that are archived daily. However, there are hosts of different blogs available. Most blogs are basic with two styles of blogs mainly used, personal and news. Most people use blogs as a personal diary, a cyber space to convey individual thoughts, opinions and agendas. They are also used for gathering news, local information and items of interest.

One person, or a group of people, generally writes blogs. However, the majority of blogs are written by a community. Internet users can read and leave comments for the writers in which they can choose to read or reply.

Blogs bring a unique perspective to people, the ability to speak freely and unfiltered. Topics can range widely: from news, politics, government, the school someone attends or even music preferences. And people from all walks of life are choosing to let their voice be heard through blogging.

Alisa Rooks from Connecticut loves blogging. She is a married mother of three children and has three blogs on Blogger.com, each with different topics: religion (Christian teachings, home based), health and wellness and a personal blog.

"I don't go to a conventional type church," Rooks

said. "We meet in homes and I began posting 'lessons' that we have learned together on it [<http://www.thejesus-tribe.blogspot.com>]."

A part of blogging that can be found on any site is commenting and giving feedback.

"Don't be afraid to comment even if it's a criticism," Rooks said, "Feedback is very important, no matter what it is. Even if it has to be anonymous. But [it] is better than silence."

Blogs, as mentioned before, are also used for news, local information or items of special interest. Some blogs cover worldwide news and others only cover local news that affects their area, city or state.

Randy Turner, author of a novel, *Small Town News*, has been blogging for many years. His blog is titled "The Turner Report."

"In the past, the only people who had the ability to get their work published their way had to have the money to own a newspaper or a television or radio station,"

Turner said. "With blogging, the only investment you have is time. Blogs are like

every other form of media. Some people do them well, some are average and some are terrible. Good blogs can offer information to augment what people receive from the traditional media, both in terms of information and interpretation of that information. I started blogging when I told my students since I planned to make them write every day, I would do the same thing. It just grew from there. It enables me to keep doing something I always loved, writing and journalism, without having to leave something else I love, teaching."

Turner's emphasis lies in news that affects the area of southwest Missouri, as well as state news. He also covers quite a bit of area business news, media news and

**"Blogs are like every other form of media. Some people do them well, some are average, and some are terrible."**

**~ Randy Turner**



supplies criticism of the area and print media. Turner also provides a considerable amount of investigative reporting and some commentary as well.

"That combination is what makes The Turner Report unique for this area," Turner said.

A difference between blogging personal news and a traditional news source, like a newspaper or magazine, is with blogging it's not constricted. One can write about anything they desire. Many people like Turner have found a creative outlet when it comes to blogging.

Several Web sites offer free blogs, with registration being all that's required. Tblog.com, Blogger.com and eBloggy.com are just a few of the endless amounts of free opportunities to blog. Blogs can have creative limitations, but there are other options available for the advanced blogger. Free blogs usually are a web template that is easy to use, almost like an e-mail template. With the template someone can custom create a blog with various texts, colors, backgrounds and graphics. A more advanced blogger can create a web page and blog designs to a custom creative design.

Free blogs also allow for trouble-free daily blogging. One flaw found with a few free sites is that images cannot be directly uploaded unless the person was putting in their own background image or a header. If images were desired for a blog, photo hosting would be required. One such photo-hosting source is Photobucket.com. A bonus with this site is it is free.

Free blogs usually have templates, or someone interested can download software to use in conjunction with word processors. The templates are just like e-mail drafts. All that a user would need is to type into the template and customize it the way the blogger wants. The templates usually have options in them, such as text preferences. They can also use a template to add their own images, programming codes and any other information they desire.

Blogs have created outlets for people and media, but blogs are changing much like the Internet. New technology has been utilized in addition to the blog structure. Blogs eventually gave birth to the next





generation called vlogs or vlogging. Vlogging is the similar to blogging, except it is video based. Instead of typing what someone wishes to convey, they voice their opinion on video within a small amount of time, usually four to five minutes.

Vlogging is now possible because of technological advances in media storage and the lower cost of video. A choice vlog for Internet users is currently Rocketboom.com, which features a three-minute daily videoblog based in New York City.

Rocketboom.com claims they are "covering and creating a wide scope of information and commentary from top news stories to quirky Internet culture."

They release each new clip at 10 a.m., Monday through Friday. Rocketbook.com features a heavy emphasis on international arts, technology and web log drama.

Another web site option is vlogmap.org which provides a map showing vlogs around the world. A user can click and view details, see where the vlog authors are and even watch videos and talk to the authors. The creators of Vlogmap incorporated Google's map technology into their site and have a video on their personal site, [www.leanbackvids.com](http://www.leanbackvids.com).

Tom Chaffer from Kansas City (<http://atomsound.blogspot.com/>) has been vlogging for several months and runs a home business, AtomSoundMedia.

"It's mostly about doing promotional videos for businesses and charities," Chaffer said.

Chaffer got into blogging earlier this year.

"My life has been ruined!" Chaffer said. "Once I got

my brain around communicating intimately with the world via 'video letter,' I'm all about interacting with a global community on this new 'reality' network."

Vlogs have a wide range of topics. Many vloggers act as journalists reporting news locally or worldwide, and talk about their views and opinions on different issues, for example Hurricane Katrina.

A few sites video log random people doing chance things, such as walking, talking or buying things, almost a voyeuristic quality. Some vloggers learned to vlog after discovering the simplicity of it and the benefits, such as being able to upload family videos, birthday parties and daily life onto the Internet for their families and friends to view no matter where they might be located.

As such, vlogs are nationwide, just as blogs are. On vlogmap.org there is a plethora of vlogs to see from all around the world including: the United States, Asia, Australia and even Germany. Since some vlogs are from different countries, the video creates a unique aspect in understanding the author even though the language might vary.

There are many web sites available to learn more about this new Internet wave that is taking place. Anyone interested can search Google or Yahoo to find tutorials and information about how they can get started or learn about blogging or vlogging.

The options are endless as to what one can do creatively with vlogging. If anyone is interested in learning more about vlogs or how to set-up or start their own vlog, they can go to <http://www.freevlog.org>

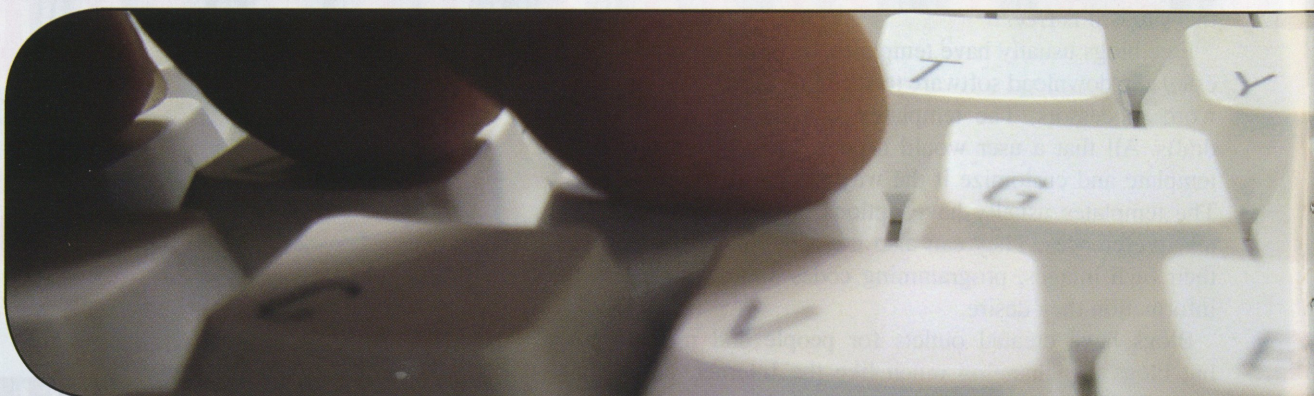



Photo by Melissa Karsten





By Jessica Bogle

A photograph of a gravel road leading into the distance. The road is made of light-colored gravel and stretches from the foreground towards the horizon. On the left side of the road, there is a grassy area with a wooden fence and some trees. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The overall tone of the image is somewhat somber and contemplative.

# Share your Journey



# Mentoring can help improve lives at any age

Everyone has had at least one person in his or her life that they have looked up to. Sometimes these people can be there to give advice about life when it is needed, or to show how to live life in a better way.

Others simply live an admirable life, and inspire people to wish they could be more like them in some aspects. They can be older, younger or someone of the same age. But the point is that others learn from them, and become better because of them — whether they realize it or not.

One term for these kinds of people is “mentors.” Mentoring is typically thought of as a time when one person who knows a lot about life sits down and shares what he or she knows with someone else.

This is only one aspect of mentoring. Some other areas are: career mentoring, spiritual mentoring, mentoring for specific life issues like money or relationships, adults mentoring children or peer mentoring.

Again, it can either be intentional or unintentional. Mentoring simply means sharing your journey with someone else who needs to get further in life.

An example of mentoring that is available at

Missouri Southern is Project STAY. This program is for students who are first generation college students, meet an income guideline, or have a disability. During the mentoring program in Project STAY, mentors help their mentees get through each semester by sharing their ideas, experiences and skills.

Fall 2005 was the first semester Project STAY has had a mentoring program.

“It’s been a real positive experience for everyone involved,” Susan Craig, project director, said.

Another local mentoring opportunity is Big Brothers Big Sisters. This organization is the nation’s largest mentoring program for youth, as well as the oldest. Big Brothers Big Sisters matches up children with adults to help them overcome any challenge they may face.

There are two types of mentoring available through Big Brothers Big Sisters, site based and school based. Site based mentoring occurs at a designated place each Thursday between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. during the school year. School based mentoring takes place at school from 3:15 p.m. and 4:14 p.m.

In Jasper County, the school based programs are set up at Webb City Middle School on Tuesdays,





and Carthage Junior High on Wednesdays. In either setting, the mentor (or "Big") spends time with their mentee ("Little") in fun activities; doing homework or talking about life.

Iashia Castle, senior accounting and business management major, started volunteering as a "Big" in spring 2005 through the honors program. She met the requirement of a course, but then the initial experience gave her incentive to continue.

"I like just listening to the things she [her 'little'] likes to do, her dreams and aspirations and do what I can to make those dreams come true," Castle said.

Brian Gunnels, sophomore general business major also volunteers at Big Brothers Big Sisters. Gunnels responded to a poster set up on campus in fall 2004.

"It's a good thing for people to do, because the 'littles' that I've been around, their lives can be really bad," Gunnels said.

He plans to continue mentoring at Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"It's just my way of serving Christ, being a servant and trying to be a good role model," Gunnels said.

Big Brothers Big Sisters has seen positive results for the children who have been mentored, including a decrease in drug and alcohol use and increase in school attendance. This is only a small example of the effects that a mentor can have on his or her mentee.

Career mentoring is another opportunity for a person to be mentored by someone in an industry he or she is interested in. This type of mentor teaches the mentee about the industry, industry experience and provides networking opportunities. They also help with career options.

Peer mentoring is exactly that, mentoring someone of the same age. The mentor is there to encourage and help the mentee through any life issues or decisions. The mentor has usually already experienced the same types of issues and offer a good insight to the mentee about how they can practically handle them.

Since it is a peer, and not someone significantly older, a peer mentor can help the mentee see that someone at their same age accomplished the task at hand, and that it is achievable.

Spiritual mentoring is sometimes called "discipleship" in Christian circles. One well-known verse of the Bible that demonstrates the spiritual

*"Be imitators  
of me as I follow  
Christ."  
~ 1 Corinthians 11:1*



Photo by Scott Walters

Krissy Blake, freshman psychology major and Amber Duncan, sophomore English major through Project Stay share their experiences to learn how to better cope with the stress of college life.



mentoring process in 2 Timothy 2:2, which says, "The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."

This demonstrates that as one person grows and learns from another in the Christian faith, they are to pass those things on to other people, who will in turn teach another group of people the same concepts.

A simplified way of saying this is 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Be imitators of me as I follow Christ." This is the essence of mentoring - no matter what area of life it is in, a mentor passes along what he knows to someone in order to make him or her a better, more successful person in life.

What are the effects of mentoring? Something that will inevitably occur is that the mentee will become a better person.

This can mean improving skills for a job, relationships, school, basically for life overall. The mentee is held accountable for his decisions and will be guided through life by someone who has been there.

One thing that can be seen through mentoring is that life doesn't have to be lived in isolation, and no one has to live life on their own. Everything

doesn't have to be figured out alone.

In the United States, the citizens are characterized as a people of individualism and increasing a-social behavior. Yet a new trend is occurring among today's college students — they are letting people into their lives, becoming other-oriented.

This may be a result of the increasing terrorism, wars, tragedies or business and personal struggles. But whatever the cause, college students today no longer try to leave the ones closest to them out of their lives — they invite them in.

One way of doing this is simple. Any student interested can ask at least one person to lead them in those specific areas where they need help.

It is important to be mentored, and to also mentor someone else. Students need to remember that there is always something they don't understand and need guidance in, but there's also a lot they have learned about life in various areas that could be offered to someone else.

They need to determine what their needs are, and find someone to mentor them in those areas. They should determine also, however, what they have learned and can teach someone else — and find a mentee. There will be great benefits and rewards down the road from doing both.





A man in a dark shirt and light shorts stands on a red ladder, reaching up to adjust a large, dark wooden sign. The sign is mounted on two tall wooden posts. The sign has three sections: the top section says 'CROSSROADS' in large, red, stylized letters; the middle section says 'The Magazine' in red letters; and the bottom section is a yellow rectangular sign that says 'UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT' in black letters. A small light fixture is attached to the top of the sign. In the background, there are trees and a white pickup truck.

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# SOUND

Photos and Story by Faith Ducommun

goodness

It's a new year  
and the new year  
has a new year  
and the new year  
has a new year

THE  
NEW  
YEAR

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Marshall

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SILENCE



## Rock band sings of christian faith

The quaint coffee shop is overflowing with people waiting anxiously for the next band to begin playing. At Dioko Coffee Company, a benefit concert is being held for Hurricane Katrina victims. There are several local bands playing but it's evident that the bulk of the crowd is there to see one band perform.

That one band is Sounding the Silence, formerly known as Mandown. This Indie Christian rock band from Joplin has become very well known for their style and rhythmic synchronization. Their music brings up real issues and struggles, but it also gives the listeners a way to freedom, freedom in Christ.

Their recent name change has caused some controversy among not only fans, but family as well. However, with the name Mandown already claimed by another

group, the band didn't have much of an option left.

It was only a question as to what name to choose next. Cody Belk, who is lead guitarist, said the name was changed after much prayer and consideration by all the band members.

"God is silent in today's society and we want to sound the silence," he said.

Their music does that exactly. They've set themselves apart, and rely on faith to take them to the next step.

Sounding the Silence relies not only on God and their faith, but also the support of their parents and family. Kevin's parents, Susan and Jamie, continually encourage the group. They said that although the band is talented, it hasn't been easy for them to make it.

"They practice all the time," Susan said.

And the practice has paid off. Each

member has sacrificed a little to be apart of something bigger.

Three of the four band members have been friends since elementary school and are currently juniors at Joplin High School. The members described how hard it has become to keep up in their studies, practice and continually perform on the weekends when they are usually booked with shows.

Even with the busyness of life, the members make it a point to be there for one another. The members are like brothers and have a camaraderie that is hard to explain. Each member brings his own piece onto the stage that fits perfectly into the puzzle. Kevin Deems is the drummer who tends to be everyone's favorite guy.

"[He] is microphone spoiled," Carter Hulsey, the lead singer, said, jokingly referring to the way Deem is always using his microphone time to crack jokes. Belk,

Sounding the Silence, formerly known as Mandown, is comprised of (from left to right) Carter, Cody, Kevin and Scott.





who also plays the synthesizer, is described as the quiet one who takes his work seriously. It was Belk who actually thought of the band's new name. Hulsey is the guy who holds everything together. Scott Fahrag is the temporary bass player.

With the variety of people in one group sometimes there could be clashes, but the band keeps one thing in the forefront of their minds.

"Every decision is done with faith in God," Hulsey said. "Everything is from God and we are vessels in His work."

The members are thankful for all the support from friends and especially family because without them they said they wouldn't be where they are today.

Deems, Hulsey and Fahrag said their families are supportive, not only in love, but also financially. Belk, however, supports himself financially and relies a lot on the band members for love and support. Although money may be tight, these guys are rich in their love for their music, fans and God.

The group is constantly awed by their fans. The "doughnut show" is a favorite of theirs simply because of the fans. While they were performing at Nevada, Mo., in a small doughnut shop, they were able to meet persons who were developmentally disabled. The band said that the audience that night was so excited about the music and they were "awesome fans."

However, not every memory is because of the fans. As with any band, sometimes things go wrong and technical difficulties happen. But whenever Deems started to literally smoke during a performance, it was an incident no one expected.

It happened while they were performing during a parade. Although it was chilly on the float, Deems didn't mind. He typically gets hot while drumming and starts to perspire, but since they were outside that day smoke oddly began to rise from his body. Of course, others found out about it and to this day it is a story that still brings about laughter.

Being out on the road for the band can be tough at times. However, the kindness of others, whether it's a good deed or just talking to them, makes the load lighter.

"Talking to people after the show is

Cody is the lead guitarist for the band. He was the creator of the new name for the band.



Cody and Carter jam out during a practice in preparation for future shows.





In the future, the band plans to open for Toby Mac, a nationally known Christian singer.



## "I STRUGGLE WITH GIVING GOD THE CONTROL"

- CARTER HULSEY

the best," Deems said.

Performing in a band is also a continual learning process. All the members said God has shown them many things, especially how He can work through their music. Hulsey said that he doesn't feel he's a brilliant singer or guitarist but somehow God works through him and the other members to bring glory to the kingdom.

When it comes to the goal of the band, it is unanimous that they desire for their audience to see Jesus through them. But being human, they all struggle and have their own personal trials they go through.

"I struggle with giving God the control," Hulsey said.

"I'm a perfectionist and I get sad and upset when a practice doesn't go well," Belk said.

The band wants their audience to know they have had struggles too which they deal with every day, but that it has been God who has seen them through the tough times.

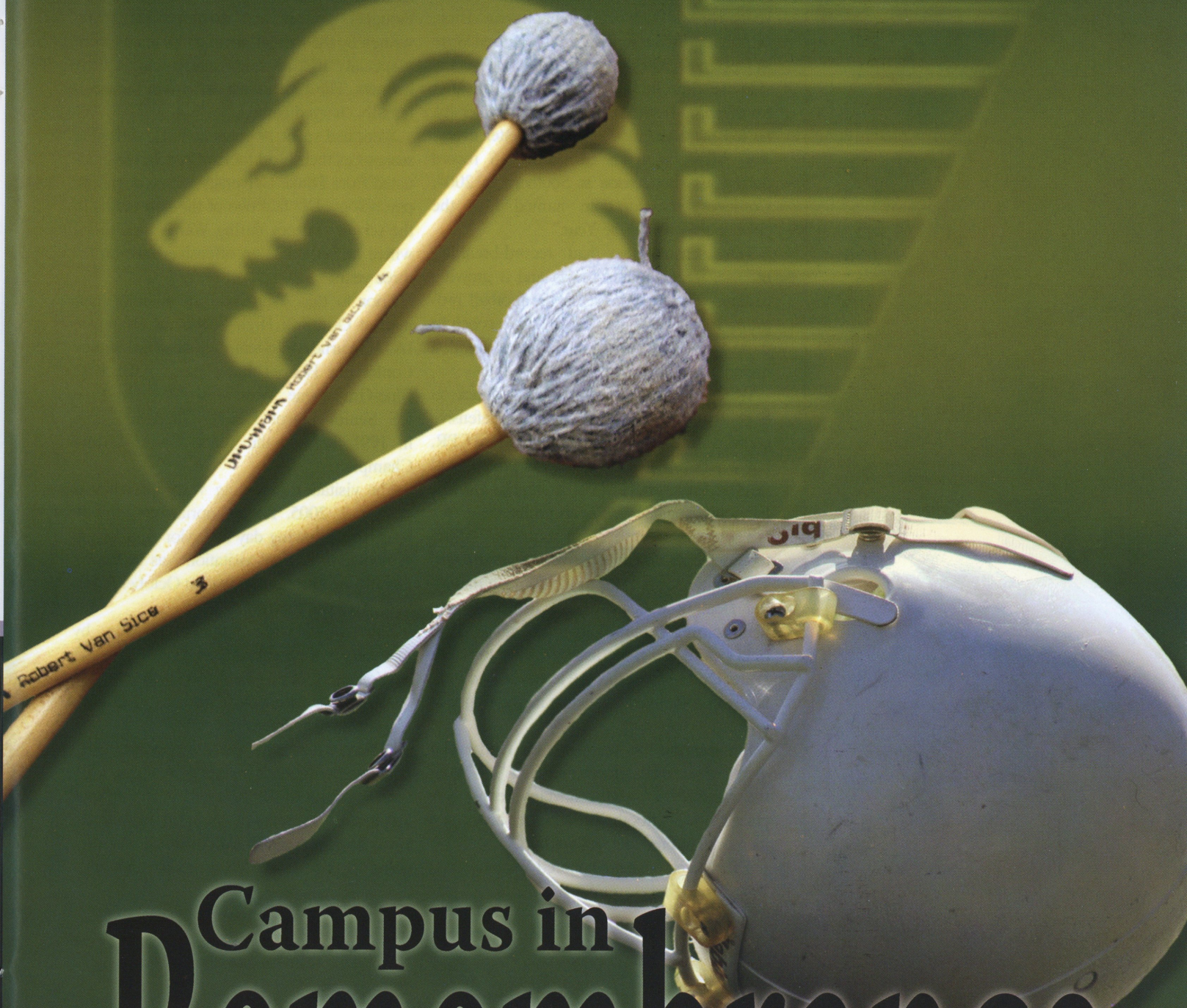
"[We are] guys who are Christians," Hulsey said, "who love people."

The band also said that their hope for the people in the audience is "not to care whether we are Christian or not, but to enjoy our music."

As the future unfolds for the band, it looks like it will be on solid ground. The band members plan on pursuing their dream further when they graduate from high school and they are currently playing with Brady White. Plans are also in the making to open for Toby Mac, a well-known Christian rapper. They also still play many venues in Joplin.

For more information on Sounding the Silence they can be reached by e-mail at [soundingthesilence.com](mailto:soundingthesilence.com) or at [www.myspace.com/soundingthesilence](http://www.myspace.com/soundingthesilence).





# Campus in Remembrance

By Jessica Bogle



# Coach Ware

Coach John Ware was Missouri Southern's head football coach for the short time of two years. He was known as a man of great vision, inspiration and optimism. Southern hired Ware in December 2003, after a nation-wide search.

In the time he coached at Southern, after transferring from Truman State University, he led the team in doing "1%" better every-day. After the team earned a 5-6 record during his first season at Southern in 2004, Collagesportsreport.com named him the "National Coach of the Year."

That season also had record-breaking offense, larger home crowds and a growing campus-wide excitement for the football program. However, he was more than a coach to those who knew him best. He was a friend, a mentor and a role model.

Ware died suddenly from a heart attack on Sept. 26, 2005, at the age of 46. Co-defensive coordinator Brian Ward tried giving him CPR, but it was unsuccessful. He was pronounced dead at Freeman Hospital in Joplin. He had previous struggles with heart problems.

The coach's death came four days before the homecoming game between Southern and TSU on Sept. 30. Prior to the game, a memorial float in honor of Ware led Southern's homecoming parade. Both teams met on the field before the game as one group to honor Ware. During this time, the teams bowed their heads in a moment of silence as the flag was lowered to half-staff.

Between the two teams on the field laid a giant flower arrangement that read "1%" with the initials "JW" next to it. Many people also placed flowers, footballs and other items as a memorial at Fred Hughes Stadium.

TSU football players honored Ware by

wearing gold pants, as the coach did when he trained them. Two posters were filled with thoughts, prayers and memories of Ware, written by the football team. Both teams wore a special "1%" remembrance patch on their helmets. The Lions went on to win the emotionally charged game.

Ware had spent 19 years at TSU, with nine seasons as their head football coach. He graduated from Drake University with a degree in psychology. DU had two of the best teams in the school's history during Ware's time there, where he served as an offensive lineman for three years.

Prior to this, Ware was an all-state lineman at Ottumwa High School in Ottumwa, IA. He earned first-team all-Missouri Valley Conference Honors and played in the 1981 Blue-Gray game. Ware was also a five-time US Senior Power Lifting Champion and, in 1991, he was the World Power Lifting Champion.

The visitation following Ware's death was on Oct. 2, 2005. The memorial service took place the following day at Taylor Auditorium at Southern. A final visitation was in Ware's hometown, Ottumwa, Iowa, on October 5. His wife, Melissa, survives.

The following are memories of Ware by members of the football team:

"You can sum up Coach Ware in one word: 'WOW!' We love you, Coach." - Bob Ray, assistant coach, defensive line

"Coach Ware gave me the opportunity to continue my football career. A year ago I left the University of Nevada, and in the process had lost all my years of eligibility in football. I was back home and didn't think I was ever going to play again. Many people thought I

**Coach Ware was dedicated to the team on and off the field.**





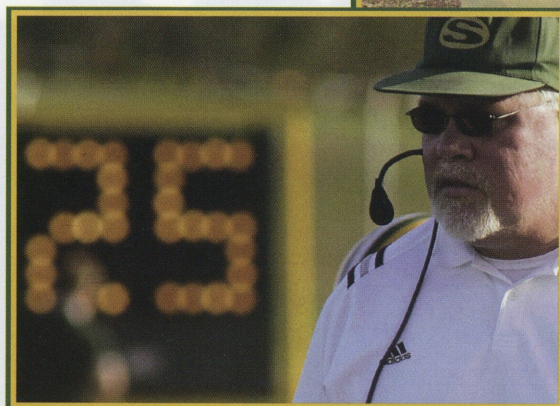
had no chance of getting my years back again, but Coach Ware did. He called me and told me that he would help me get my years back. I wrote a paper to the NLI and it was successful. I received my last two years of football. That story there shows the type of person Coach was. He was a very respectful man and has totally changed the MSSU football program. My prayers go out to Melissa, his wife, and my brothers on the football team. We must stay together and overcome this like he would want us to do. God bless you all." - Dustin Bromley, junior, health promotion and wellness major.

"Today I am sad, because today I lost more than a coach - I lost a friend and a role model. Coach Ware was all about helping people. He helped me out so much and I really appreciate all that he has done for me. Coach Ware touched my heart like no other coach has ever done in my life. I looked up to Coach Ware he made me want to get better and not settle on being average. He believed in me and knew what I wanted to be from the first day that I met him. He told me that if I hang in there I will be in the NFL, and I promise I won't let him down. To all my brothers out there, I love you all with all my heart and if there is anything I can help you with let me know. I am trying to be more like Coach Ware in not being selfish and just thinking about myself anymore because Coach Ware always thought about everybody else." - DeMarcus Mathes, senior, general studies major.

"He is the only reason I'm here. He cared about people more than he cared about himself. Over the summer he called me at two in the morning to tell me how he felt about me. Two in the morning! That's a man that cares." - Brandon Holland, sophomore, art major.

## "You can sum up Coach Ware in one word: 'WOW!' We love you, Coach."

~ Bob Ray, Assistant Coach, Defensive Line



Photos Courtesy of MSSU Sports Information.

(Above) Many visited the memorial at the Fred Hughes Stadium.  
(Left) Coach Ware touched many lives with his passion to help others.



# Dr. Kushner

Dr. Jeremy Kushner was an assistant director of music at Southern. He taught applied percussion and percussion techniques. He also directed the Southern drum line and supervised the basketball prep band.

He died of a sudden heart attack on Oct. 8, 2005, at the age of 35. He was greatly admired and respected by those who knew him.

Kushner took over Dr. Phillip Wise's position as director of the jazz orchestra. He was also a teaching assistant in the percussion department. His diverse performance background included orchestral, jazz, rock, ethnic, solo and chamber.

He performed with such groups as The Ozark Festival Orchestra, Laredo Philharmonic Mesa Symphony in Arizona, Gainesville Chamber Orchestra, Central Florida Symphony, Shreveport Symphony, Longview Symphony in Texas, Florida West Coast Symphony and the Phoenix Symphony.

He served as a faculty of member at the Blue Lake Fine Arts Summer Camp in Turn Lake, Mich., as well.

Kushner received his degree in percussion performance from University of South Florida, Stephen Austin State University and received his DMA from Arizona State University.

After his death, he was buried at Forest Meadows Central Cemetery in Gainesville, Florida. During the Southern fall concert on Oct. 25, a special dedication was performed

in honor of him.

Kushner attended the United Hebrew Congregation in Joplin and is survived by his wife, Donna Honeycutt Kushner, and his daughter, Sarah Rose Kushner.

He is also survived by his parents, David and Rebecca Kushner; two brothers, Jason Kushner of Fayetteville, and Josh Kushner and his wife, Patricia, of Los Angeles, as well as a niece and nephew.

The family is asking that any contributions be made to a scholarship fund for Sarah in the care of the United Hebrew Congregation.

The following are statements of remembrance by students and faculty who knew and loved Kushner:

Kushner to Spc. Whitledge: "You know, you should send some of these guys to Ft. Leonard Wood and have a drill sergeant teach these guys how to march." Spc.: "Aww, there's no need for that sir, I can handle it." - Spc. Whitledge

"I had the privilege of seeing him work with the percussion section. You could tell he loved what he was doing just by the way he acted. The section trusted and respected him in everything he did, and he will be missed greatly." - Crystal Boles, freshman, music major

"Dr. Jeremy Kushner was a gentle spirit who gave the very essence of himself to his family, friends and students. He was, in the truest sense, a gentleman and a scholar. Jeremy was unassuming, humble, modest

Dr. Kushner was involved with many programs including the percussion ensemble.





and always genuine. He exhibited these qualities because he was at peace with himself. He knew exactly who he was, and who he wasn't. He shed the mask that most wear. Dr. Jeremy Kushner...a gentle spirit indeed."

- Wise, Ph.D., Director of Jazz Studies/  
Music Education

"Bad things should never happen to good people. There must be shortage of good percussionists in heaven – that's the only thing I can figure. I was Jeremy's primary instructor and doctoral committee chair at Arizona State University. He was one of my teaching assistants. Smart guy, good player, excellent teacher: he was a model graduate student. He came into the program with playing and teaching experience. He had no trouble with the academic requirements. In fact, he was one of the strongest students I've had. His dissertation will forever be a testament to his work ethic and imagination. I had to twist his arm to tackle the really demanding literature for his recitals, but he was a natural otherwise. He had skills, smarts and drive - the perfect combination to be a successful college professor. Diversity is important in this business. His interests in contemporary music, world music, marching percussion and orchestral literature made him well suited for the programs where he taught. I and the rest of his teachers were expecting him to carry the torch to the next generations of percussionists. The path is a little dimmer now that he's gone. He will not be forgotten." - J.B. Smith

**"Dr. Jeremy Kushner was a  
gentle spirit who gave  
the very essence of himself  
to his family, friends  
and students."**

- Phillip C. Wise, Ph.D.,  
Director of Jazz Studies/Music Education



Photos Courtesy of MSSU Music Department.

(Above) Dr. Kushner played many instruments, but his love was the marimba.  
(Left) Josh Zimmer poses with Dr. Kushner, who won the admiration of many students.





# BELSNICKLES

Story by Noelle Ott and Photos by Scott Walters



# Business launches after nickel garage sale purchase

Five cents can buy a minute on a telephone, five Tootsie-rolls or a piece of gum. However, one woman used a nickel and turned it into an international business.

Belsnickles, an antique papier-mâché Santa that hails from Europe, became Linda Lindquist Baldwin's craft when she couldn't afford to buy one herself.

In 1986, she was a single mother and a college student at Missouri Southern. As she was looking through a garage sale, she spotted a booklet about the Santas. Everything was for sale at five cents and so Baldwin purchased the brochure.

As she looked through, she became "mesmerized" by the product she saw inside. However, her dreams of owning one were quickly squelched as she realized they came with a price tag of \$1,000 or more. So this single mother decided to tackle the project and make one herself.

Born by Sugar Creek, Mo., which is seven miles from Pineville, Mo., Baldwin grew up without electricity or running water. However, this wasn't because her family couldn't afford it. Instead a feud between her father and the electric company stopped the supply of water and electricity. Baldwin still remembers having to pump water for her family because of the dispute. It was her home life which would reap a character in her that would be crucial to her success later on.

"Had I not had that upbringing, I wouldn't have had the determination to turn a nickel garage sale item into a multi-million dollar business," Baldwin said.

But her background isn't the only thing she credits to her success. Over and over she credits God with leading her and making the business possible.

"I believe God directed me in [this] path," she said.

After Baldwin's ingenuity fired up and she started to work on her craft, she finally made some with which she was pleased. As she kept working on them she would give them away as gifts to people she knew.

It wasn't until 1992 that she decided

to sell her product at a local craft show. Pricing her creation at six dollars apiece, Baldwin was delighted when she saw the interest people took in her item. However, the people in the crowd were not the only ones impressed with her work.

A scout from *Better Homes and Gardens* was at the craft fair and, as he spotted Baldwin's creation, he knew that he had stumbled upon something unique. Impressed with her work, he referred her to the Smithsonian and to some national magazines. Soon Tom Brokaw and CNN heard of her work and aired her story on national television.

"Overnight I was years behind on orders," Baldwin said.

This would be a new beginning for Baldwin. After the television shows, a company called Schmid contacted Baldwin and wanted to sign her and mass-produce her Belsnickle. Baldwin agreed, since just one could take at least two months to make.

However, Schmid desired to put something on her work which would make it stand out, but also mean something to her. After some thought, Baldwin decided to put a nickel on the bottom, to remind her of the five cent garage sale purchase. But even when the ideas were taking form, something was still missing, a slogan.

Baldwin got the idea for the slogan in her own backyard. Her son, Seth, was in the sixth grade at the time and had to write a paper over someone famous. She was flattered that her son wanted to write about her.

Then the realization hit her that her son knew if he chose his mother he wouldn't have to do as much research for his project. However, even with the ulterior motives, he wouldn't allow her to see the whole product until he was done. But Baldwin did get a glimpse of the title he had come up with: "From a nickel to a Belsnickle." And so her world-famous slogan came into being.

Lera Dill and Lois Campell, co-owners of the Magnolia House on 12<sup>th</sup> and Joplin, were some of the first business owners to sell the Belsnickles when Schmid was producing her craft. With Belsnickles lining their shop walls and counters, one can easily tell that they are fans of Baldwin's business.

"The little figures are just enduring," Dill said. "There's a lot of warmth to them."

Dill and Campell had known Baldwin all of her life. When they opened their gift shop, the Belsnickles were the first item on their list to stock. This decision would pay



Linda Baldwin, founder of Season of Snickles, came upon the craft in 1986. In 2006, she will celebrate 20 years.



off for them as the years went by.

In 1996, Baldwin received a call to go to Branson for a craft fair. As people came up to see her work, Baldwin interacted with the people on a personal basis.

A representative from Enesco, the biggest company in the world of its kind during that time, happened to be in the audience that day and was impressed by how she interacted with people, as well as the quality of her work. The representative approached her and an offer for a contract soon evolved.

"This [was] a chance of a lifetime," Baldwin said.

However, Baldwin had reservations. She spoke to the president of Schmid about the deal.

"Lee Paul [the president of Schmid] said 'do it,'" Baldwin said.

So she called the representative, who quickly put her on hold. After what seemed like a long period of time, the woman finally got back to Baldwin. As it turns out, the president was in the parking lot, getting ready to leave for a two-week trip. To sign any new contracts they had to have his permission. The representative, who bought some of Baldwin's pieces, tracked him down, showed him the pieces and got the permission needed. Baldwin said if she had called two minutes later it would have been too late.

"You can't tell me that's not a God thing," Baldwin said.

They flew her to Chicago and picked her up in a stretch limo and took her to a top of the line hotel. Once there Baldwin discovered her sales were in the top ten percent for the company. During the time she was with the company, a total of eight years, Enesco gave her this treatment every time. Baldwin said that she knew she'd be in trouble if they ever sent for her in a cab and took her to a Motel 6.

Eight years after she landed the contract with Enesco, Baldwin desired to start her own company after learning of Enesco's

idea to sell her pieces in places like Wal-mart, much like they had done with Precious Moments figurines. However, Baldwin knew such a decision would lower the value of her Belsnickles for her fans who avidly collect her pieces.

"Every decision I make is best for my collectors," Baldwin said.

Although she desired to start her own company, she didn't know where to start since she didn't know whom the liaison or manufacturer was. Without them, she wouldn't have been able to start her own company. For two years she tried to learn their identity, but to no avail. It all changed quickly one day when a UPS store showed up at her door. The package cost \$168, but she paid it anyway. As she opened it, she was surprised to see two of her originals within the box, along with the liaison's address, e-mail, fax and phone numbers. Somehow, her pieces were sent to the wrong address.

"God knew I was ready," Baldwin said.

In 2003, after she talked to Enesco, Baldwin was ready to set up to the plate and start her own company which she named "Seasons of Snickles."

"The transition [to her own company] was flawless, absolutely flawless," Baldwin said. "That was just a prayer answered. I couldn't have done it on my own."

Now Baldwin's pieces typically range anywhere from \$10 to \$50, depending on the piece. But Baldwin has heard of some offers for anywhere up to \$1500 for some of her originals, which are more rare.

For newer pieces, anyone interested could go to any Hallmark and also to the Magnolia House. Each year Baldwin also has an open house. This year's open house was on December 4, at the Joplin Museum Complex.

During her years in the business, many magazines have featured Baldwin's work and her story, including one unusual source—the *National Enquirer*.

As she was beginning her day one morning, she received message after message notifying her that she was in the *National Enquirer*. Frantic, she went to the nearest Wal-mart to pick up a copy.

"I about had a stroke," Baldwin said. "I was scared to death."

Not knowing what awaited her, she was relieved to find it was just a rags-to-riches story. Although she was a little irritated, she, as well as those who work with her, got some laughs out of the whole ordeal. However, not only does Baldwin appear in



The nickel on the bottom commemorates the five-cent garage sale purchase which is where Baldwin got the idea for her product.



gossip magazines, but she also gives inspirational talks to women and men's groups.

"It gives me a chance to be a witness," Baldwin said. "I speak in a lot of church and secular groups."

She also added the men enjoy her speeches just as much as the women, which was a surprise to her.

Although it started with a nickel, Baldwin's business has unearthed many surprises and has had unforeseen milestones.

One such milestone is coming in the near future and lies in plain site.

In 2006, Baldwin will have the pleasure

of celebrating 20 years of her Belsnickles. Although it has been an unexpected journey Baldwin has enjoyed it. Little did she know how far her creativity, ingenuity, right timing and God would take her. But looking back, she knows that it has ultimately been One source who has led the way.

"There are stories where I know God has just opened the doors," Baldwin said.

If anyone is interested in purchasing Belsnickles they can go to the Magnolia House, Hallmark, and a variety of other stores. Or they can go to [www.magnoliahousegiftsandantiques.com](http://www.magnoliahousegiftsandantiques.com) or [www.Lindalindquistbaldwin.com](http://www.Lindalindquistbaldwin.com).



Belsnickles come in a variety of forms such as Christmas, Halloween and Easter figurines.

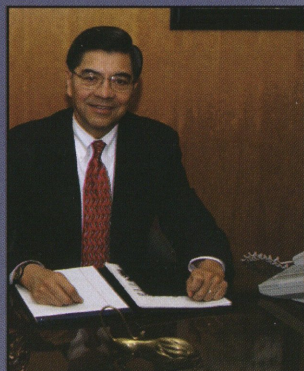
Santas are the original line of Belsnickles. An original Santa that Baldwin first made has had offers of up to \$1,500.





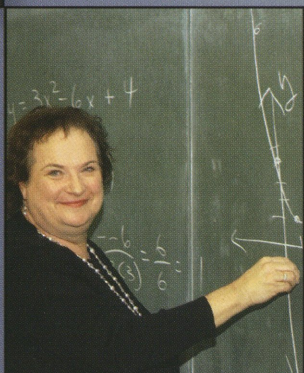
# Who did what?

Photos by Scott Walters



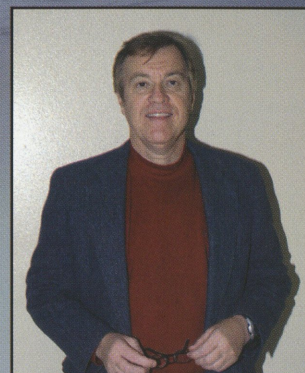
PRESIDENT JULIO LEON

*Crossroads* surveyed a number of Missouri Southern's faculty and staff to find out what their first job was. Match the person with their starting occupation. Answers found at the bottom of the page. (Answers can be used more than once.)

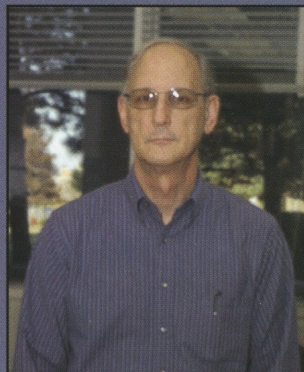


DR. LAURA ADKINS

newsboy

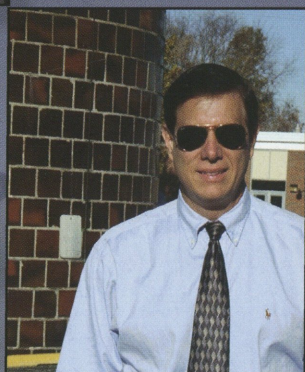


DR. RICHARD LANEAK



MR. "BUD" SLOAN

elementary school teacher



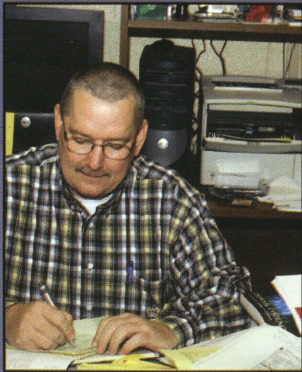
KEN KENNEDY

switchboard operator

cotton-picker

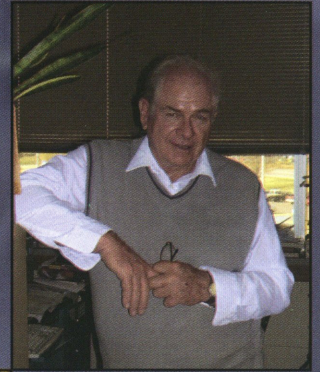
President Julio Leon - elementary school teacher, Dr. Laura Adkins - switchboard operator, Mr. Sloan - dishwasher, Ken Kennedy - farmer, Dr. Richard Laneak - life guard, Dr. Blake Wolf - cotton-picker, Ms. Holley Goodnight - waitress, Dr. Gubera - farmer, Dr. Jackson - children's program director, Dr. William Edwards - newsboy, Dr. Joy Dworkin - summer camp volunteer





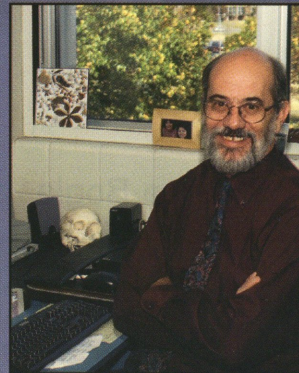
DR. BLAKE WOLF

dishwasher



DR. CONRAD GUBERA

children's program  
director

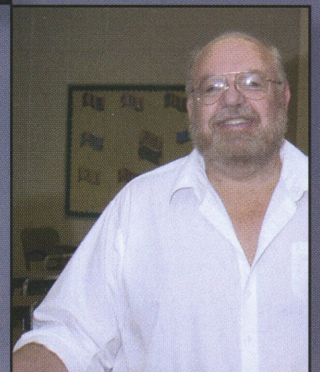


DR. JAMES JACKSON



MS. HOLLEY GOODNIGHT

waitress



DR. WILLIAM EDWARDS

summer camp  
volunteer



DR. JOY DWORKIN

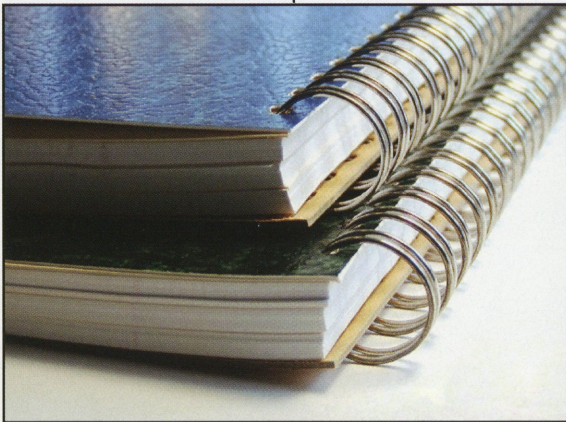
lifeguard

farmer



# Speaking of P Speaking of

By Jessica Bogle





# arents... Parents...

... it's what moms and dads want to hear

As a college student, much more independence and freedom is given to make autonomous decisions, whether still living at home or living on campus.

But there are still at least one or two people in the life of a college student they must consider: their parents... the people who brought them into the world.

What is the difference in a relationship with them now that their child is off to the world of collegiate learning? More specifically, what is okay to talk about with them? What do they really want to hear about?

Phyllis Miller, a doctor of philosophy at Ohio State University, found in a 2004 study that parents of college students do expect their communication and influence to rise in certain areas,

but also to decrease in others.

## **Say What? The Top 5 Conversational Topics Parents Want from Their Child:**

1. *Academic Success* - Parents tend to want to talk about their son or daughter's academic success the most. They want to know how they're doing in school, what they might be struggling in and also what they are succeeding in. But the child, now a young adult with responsibility, might not want to talk about that, especially if they are struggling.

This is when they need to remember that the parents most likely want to help out, and usually won't disown this person they have helped to raise, if they have a clear knowledge that their child is struggling. But they also want to share the successes and participate in

the celebrations of hard work.

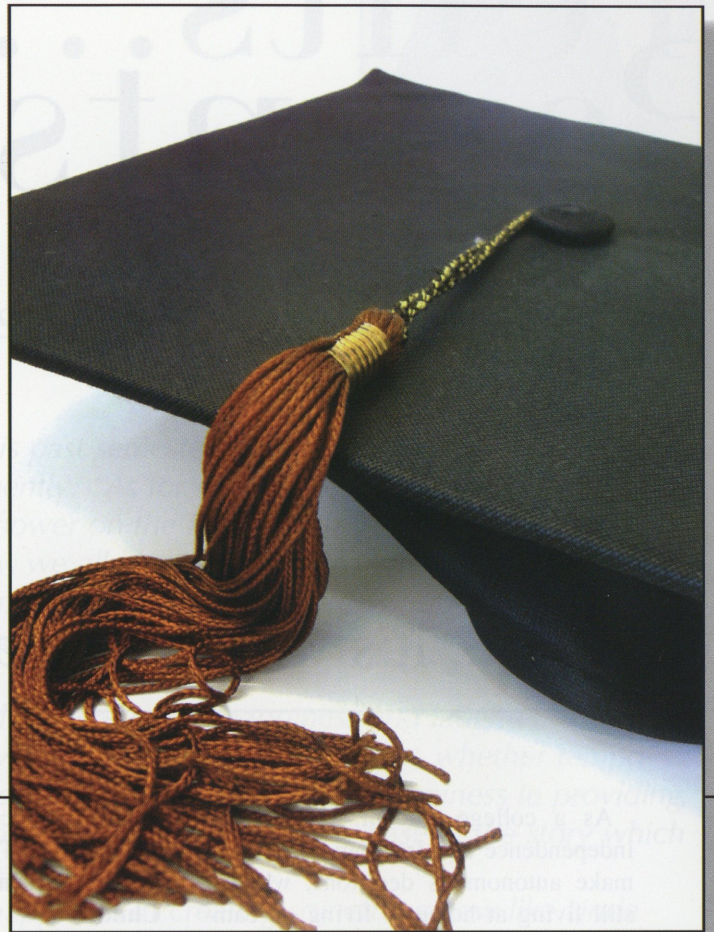
An additional benefit to allowing the parent or parents to be involved is to hear the cheer of joy over the telephone when success comes.

2. *Balancing Commitments* - It can be a challenge to balance school, work and friendship schedules for anyone, no matter what the age is. Parents, who show active engagement in their son or daughter's learning, are interested in what is going on and want to know that everything is being handled well.

3. *Managing Finances* - Money! That "M" word that no one really likes to talk about with parents, but may still need to do so. And since it is so important, parents want to make sure the money flow is going out and coming in more or less equal terms.

4. *Personal Safety* - Now that the





child is on their own for the most part, they aren't under the full supervision of their parents any longer. Plus, depending on where they attend college, the city of residence may not be the safest. Parents want to make sure safety is an issue being met no matter where their offspring may be located.

5. *Staying Healthy* - Skipping class because sleeping is a part-time hobby is different than not going because sickness prevails in the dorm room. Parents consistently feel the need to take care of their child like they did when their children were younger.

Chances are they still feel a little bit like feeding them chicken noodle

soup by the spoonful, stocking up on Kleenex and giving the medicine needed in those tiny medicine cups.

Any sickness or illness can be a cause for concern and sometimes major stress. So by letting them know on a regular basis how sickness is being handled, as well as prevented, the stress load can be reduced for the concerned parent. However, this will mean sleeping, eating right and keeping clean at the very least.

Although parents may want to talk about those five topics the most, they also realize that they can't influence the decisions made on everything. More specifically, mothers and fathers differ

in how they desire to influence their child during the college years. So, here's a couple more "Top 5 Lists."

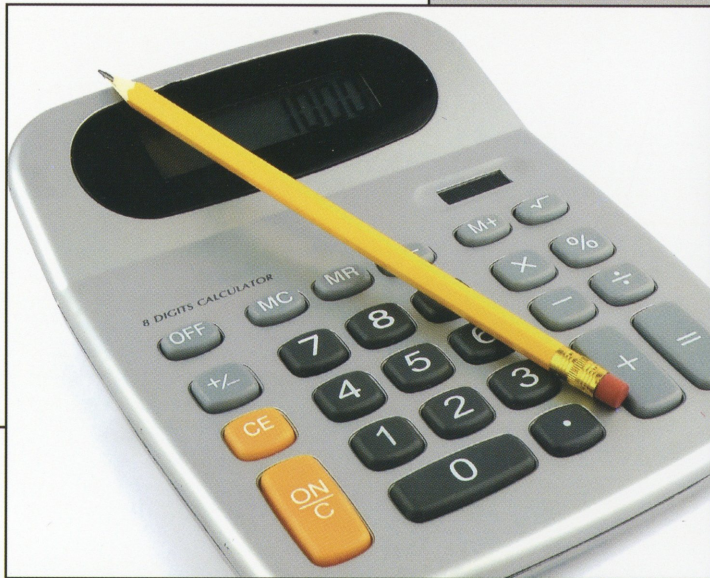
#### **Areas the Mom Wants to Influence:**

1. *Managing Finances*
2. *Personal Safety*
3. *Academic Success*
4. *Balancing Commitments*
5. *Decisions about Drinking Alcohol*

#### **Areas the Dad Wants to Influence:**

1. *Managing Finances*
2. *Personal Safety*
3. *Academic Success*
4. *Decisions about Drinking Alcohol*
5. *Balancing Commitments*





The lists only show slight differences. Although some college students may believe that their parents want to run their whole lives at times, this study suggests that they leave that mainly up to their child. In fact, they don't tend to worry about how the student fits in on campus or about their friends or roommates at all.

Even after looking through the lists, it is important to remember that every parent is different and dealing with a unique, now grown, individual. So, the lists might be different for each family. However, this can be something to talk about. It may just make the college experience and relationships with par-

ents better in the long run.

Students at Missouri Southern have a wide range of feelings about the relationship they have with their parents. Phillip Lambert, sophomore biology major, believes his parents have had a major influence on his life.

"I wouldn't be where I am today if it hadn't been for them. They were always there, through thick and thin, the good times and the bad," Lambert said.

Then there are those, who, even though they may not talk to their parents everyday, they feel that it is the natural way their relationship is.

"It was funny to me when I told people I don't talk to my mom everyday,"

Tenisha Hawkins, sophomore psychology major, said. "They acted like it was a crime."

Anna Ritzman, sophomore biology major, relies on the advice of her parents to help her make good decisions.

"They give me freedom, but they also encourage me to make right choices," she said.

No matter what the relationship is like between a college student and his or her parents, it is important for each party to be open and flexible during this time of change. Keeping the lines of communication open is especially important. Besides, even adults sometimes need to call Mom.



# Crossroads

The Magazine

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